Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota Office of the Governor

Whereas, The first week of August is recognized as World Breast-Feeding Week – a global initiative to generate public awareness and support for breast-feeding; and,

Whereas, Protecting, promoting, and supporting breast-feeding fosters the health of infants and mothers, as well as communities; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota recognizes that women who choose to breast-feed should be given the support, guidance, and assistance they need to be successful; and,

Whereas, Breast-feeding is most successful when mothers are supported by a network of family, friends, health care providers, employers, and the community; and,

Whereas, Women cite returning to work as one of the primary reasons for not initiating or not continuing to breast-feed; and,

Whereas, Maternity care practices and policies exert unique influence on both breast-feeding initiation and later infant feeding behavior; and,

Whereas, The World Alliance for Breast-Feeding Action, in conjunction with the World Health Organization and UNICEF, has proclaimed August 1-7, 2011, as World Breast-feeding Week:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2011, as

BREAST-FEEDING AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage all South Dakotans to support breast-feeding as a high priority for healthier babies in our communities.

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In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant, Specretary/of State